A Collection of Recent NGO, Think Tank, and International Government Reports

Issue 114, 2023, August

Welcome to Grey Matter, the Ministry of Health Library's Grey Literature Bulletin. In each issue, we provide access to a selection of the most recent NGO, Think Tank, and International Government reports that are relevant to the health context. The goal of this newsletter is to facilitate access to material that may be more difficult to locate (in contrast to journal articles and the news media). Information is arranged by topic, allowing readers to quickly identify their key areas of interest. Email library@health.govt.nz to subscribe.

Click on any of the bulleted points below to go to a section of interest.

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Public Health

Accelerating the Development and Uptake of Rapid Diagnostics to Address Antibiotic Resistance
"The National Academies Forum on Drug Discovery, Development, and Translation; Forum on Medical and Public Health Preparedness for Disasters and Emergencies; and Forum on Microbial Threats hosted an October 2022 workshop exploring the current landscape of rapid diagnostics to address antibiotic resistance, challenges and opportunities for spurring innovation, and practical next steps for accelerating the development of new diagnostic tools." *Source: National Academies Press*

[**Good urban governance for health and well-being: A systematic review of barriers, facilitators and indicators**](#)
"The aim of the systematic review was to identify barriers to and facilitators of multisectoral action and civic engagement and to suggest validated indicators and tools for assessing the processes and outcomes of participatory governance for health, equity, and well-being in urban settings from published scientific evidence. Findings from the systemic review informed the development of Urban governance for health and well-being: a step-by-step approach to conducting operational research in cities." *Source: World Health Organization*

[**WHO report on the global tobacco epidemic, 2023: protect people from tobacco smoke: executive summary**](#)
"The ninth WHO report on the global tobacco epidemic tracks the progress made by countries in tobacco control since 2008 and, marks 15 years since the introduction of the MPOWER technical package which is designed to help countries implement the demand-reduction measures of the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control. The report shows that many countries continue to make progress in the fight against tobacco, but efforts must be accelerated to protect people from the harms of tobacco and second-hand smoke." *Source: World Health Organization*

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Equity

[**A quantitative analysis of disadvantage and how it persists in Aotearoa New Zealand**](#)
"The New Zealand Government asked the Productivity Commission (the Commission) to undertake an inquiry into economic inclusion and social mobility, with a focus on helping people experiencing persistent disadvantage." *Source: New Zealand Productivity Commission*

[**Health equity frameworks as a tool to support public health action: A rapid review of the literature**](#)
"This report presents the results of a review conducted to answer the question: which health equity frameworks exist that can be used to inform public health planning, decision making and service delivery?" *Source: National Collaborating Centre for Determinants of Health*

[**Spatial Justice as a Driver of Health in the Context of Societal Emergencies**](#)
"Spatial justice is about equitable access to parks, housing, and more. During societal emergencies, including pandemics and climate change, the relationship between people and places requires greater attention and action to integrate the knowledge of people with lived experience, especially historically marginalized communities. On September 20 and 21, 2021, the National Academies Roundtable on Population Health Improvement hosted a virtual workshop to explore the nature, use, design of, threats, and changes to places as a resource for health and public spaces as a shared resource. This Proceedings document summarizes workshop discussions." *Source: National Academies Press*

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Mental Health & Wellbeing

[Exploring factors influencing youth mental health](#)
"Youth mental health is complex. This report, Exploring factors influencing youth mental health, and the accompanying infographic Youth Mental Health Infographic highlights how youth mental health challenges develop overtime and the interlinking factors that contribute." *Source: Koi Tū: Centre for Informed Futures (New Zealand)*

[Climate of distress: responding to the youth mental health impacts of climate change](#)
"Climate distress is not a clinical diagnosis, and likely includes healthy and adaptive responses that can lead to productive action against climate change, as well as clinically-relevant distress that requires greater support. Young people have recognised that addressing climate distress needs to go beyond a focus on their individual mental health and include a focus on climate policy. While climate distress is often related to distress about the direct impacts of climate change, it can also include distress relating to a lack of climate action or the impact of media coverage about climate events impacting others. Opportunities have been identified in both clinical and non-clinical settings." *Source: Orygen (Australia)*

[Maternal mental health: a briefing for integrated care systems](#)
"Maternal mental health problems are common and can have devastating consequences for women, babies, and families. However, timely access to effective help can make a big difference in long-term health outcomes for mothers and generations to come. With recent changes to local health commissioning in England, it's important that all integrated care systems (ICSs) understand the crucial role they have in ensuring every new and expectant mother receives the right mental health support at the right time, close to home." *Source: Maternal Mental Health Alliance (UK)*

[Social Needs Among People Living with Mental Health Difficulties](#)
"The NIHR Mental Health Policy Research Unit (MHPRU) at University College London (UCL) and King's College London (KCL) reviewed research about how mental health services can best support the social needs of people living with mental health difficulties. This briefing paper summarises their findings and explores the policy implications." *Source: Centre for Mental Health (UK)*

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Child & Youth Wellbeing

[Integrated policy making for child well-being: Common approaches and challenges ahead](#)
""Integrated policy making for child well-being: Common approaches and challenges ahead" takes stock of OECD countries' recent initiatives to strengthen the integration of child well-being policies. It documents OECD countries' experiences of implementing integrated policy plans for child well-being and child-specific policy tools, specifically child indicator sets, child impact assessments and child budgeting. It lays out the challenges facing countries as they work to push the child well-being policy agenda forward and discusses what countries can do to become more effective." *Source: OECD*

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Nutrition

[Healthy diet metrics: a suitability assessment of indicators for global and national monitoring purposes](#)

"Diets are changing everywhere, and the burden of disease associated with unhealthy diets is a worldwide concern. Measurement and monitoring of diets across countries and population groups is critical. However, there are no harmonized metrics for tracking how the healthfulness of diets around the world is evolving. This report assesses the validity, usefulness and fitness for purpose of existing healthy diet metrics as global and national monitoring indicators, presents a comparative assessment of selected healthy diet metrics and discusses priorities and opportunities to improve diet monitoring." *Source: World Health Organization*

Health Systems, Costs, & Reforms

[The practice of collaborative leadership: Across health and care services](#)

"This report shares the learning and insights from health and care leaders about what nurtures more effective collaborative working." *Source: King's Fund (UK)*

Research & Innovation

[Applying Lessons Learned from COVID-19 Research and Development to Future Epidemics](#)

"The National Academies Forum on Microbial Threats; Forum on Drug Discovery, Development, and Translation; and the Forum on Medical and Public Health Preparedness for Emergencies and Disasters held a workshop in December 2022 to explore how innovative approaches in research can enhance health systems preparedness and responses to emerging infectious diseases and dangerous pathogens." *Source: National Academies Press*

[Toward Equitable Innovation in Health and Medicine: A Framework](#)

"Advances in biomedical science, data science, engineering, and technology are leading to high-pace innovation with potential to transform health and medicine. These innovations simultaneously raise important ethical and social issues, including how to fairly distribute their benefits and risks. The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine, in collaboration with the National Academy of Medicine, established the Committee on Creating a Framework for Emerging Science, Technology, and Innovation in Health and Medicine to provide leadership and engage broad communities in developing a framework for aligning the development and use of transformative technologies with ethical and equitable principles." *Source: National Academies Press*

[Scaling Smart Solutions with AI in Health: Unlocking Impact on High potential use cases](#)

"The healthcare sector is grappling with critical challenges, such as a shortage of frontline workers, health disparities and escalating spending. Artificial intelligence (AI) promises transformative potential to tackle these issues." *Source: World Economic Forum*

[Scaling innovation within healthcare systems: practical considerations](#)

"This guide comes in response to member feedback on challenges to innovation in the NHS. It provides practical pointers for innovators and system decision-makers on how to successfully adopt and scale proven innovations." *Source: NHS Confederation (UK)*

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Communicable Disease

Considerations for developing a national genomic surveillance strategy or action plan for pathogens with pandemic and epidemic potential
"This step by step guide outlines key considerations and a proposed approach for countries to develop a national genomic surveillance strategy or action plan for pathogens with pandemic and epidemic potential. This technical document is intended for use by all stakeholders at the national and subnational levels relevant to the development and implementation of the strategy, including health authorities, One Health partners, donors, public health officers, academia, the private sector and laboratory specialists." *Source: World Health Organization*

Community experiences of the 2022–2023 mpox outbreak in Europe and the Americas
"The survey identified high levels of mpox-related concerns among affected communities, which translated into widespread, temporary adaptations of people's sexual behaviour to manage their risk. Survey data analysis also identified insufficient and unequal access to mpox testing and vaccination services across settings. People's self-reported experience of mpox highlighted the role of stigma and discrimination in increasing the emotional distress produced by the physical symptoms of the illness. Findings from this survey provide valuable insights into the experiences and needs of the affected communities and emphasizes the importance of increasing access to vaccination and diagnostics globally. Tailored risk communication and community engagement strategies are essential to respond effectively to future outbreaks and protect at-risk individuals and communities." *Source: World Health Organization*

Responding to the global mpox outbreak: ethics issues and considerations: a policy brief
"Established ethics principles in outbreak response are: justice, beneficence, utility, respect for persons, liberty, reciprocity and solidarity. This policy brief provides guidance on key ethics issues that have emerged in the context of the global mpox outbreak and its response, primarily: (i) stigma and discrimination, (ii) equitable access to interventions and (iii) action in the face of uncertainty." *Source: World Health Organization*

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Quality Improvement

Improvement cultures in health and adult social care settings
"To support the delivery of their strategy, CQC commissioned SQW (in partnership with the Kings Fund Library Service) to deliver a rapid literature review, focusing on improvement cultures in health and adult social care. The review aimed to inform CQC's approach to assessing and encouraging improvement, improvement cultures and improvement capabilities of services, while strengthening CQC's regulatory role." *Source: Care Quality Commission (UK)*

[**Optimising antimicrobial stewardship in Australian primary care**](#)
"Preventing antimicrobial resistance requires the establishment of antimicrobial stewardship (AMS) practices in prescribing. In Australia, AMS programs are well established in secondary and tertiary care. However, 80% of antibiotics in Australia are prescribed within primary care. Despite this, AMS programs are yet to be widely established within primary care. To prevent antimicrobial resistance, barriers to AMS programs in primary care must be addressed, and interprofessional collaboration between general practice and community pharmacy fostered." *Source: Deeble Institute (Australia)*

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Cancer

[**The Potential Contribution of Cancer Genomics Information to Community Investigations of Unusual Patterns of Cancer**](#)
"The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine National Cancer Policy Forum convened a virtual public workshop in collaboration with the Roundtable on Genomics and Precision Health on April 13, 2023 to explore the state of the science in identifying potential genomic and epigenomic biomarkers of environmental exposures associated with cancers, with an emphasis on pediatric cancers. This proceedings document summarizes workshop discussions." *Source: National Academies Press*

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